effect that 'Sangam Poets were mainly Brahmans' mentioned at page 124 under the caption 'Rise of Social classes' in 'Ancient India' — a text book for class XI published by NCERT is based on historical evidences or literary evidences;

(b) if so, what are those evidences; and

(c) whether these statements of far reaching ethnic significance are true and if not, what are the reasons for which these statements were allowed to be mentioned in that text book?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI (KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) The statement 'Sangam Poets were mainly Brahmans' does not occur in page 124 of the book 'Ancient India' a text book for Class XI. However, the text reads "Taxes enabled the king not only to maintain a professional army but also to pay the poets and priests who were mainly brahmans. The brahmans first appear in the Tamil land in the Sangam age". The textbook states that the influence of brahmanism was limited.

(c) The statement with regard to the Brahmans in the textbook entitled 'Ancient India' has no ethnic significance. Brahmans have not been treated as an ethnic category.

Conversion of Fazilka telephone exchange into electro-mechanical MAX-II type telephone exchange

1698. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1714 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 12th August, 1986 and state;

(a) what is the present stage of conversion of Fazilka telephone exchange into 800-line electro-mechanical MAX-II type exchange;

(b) whether it is a fact that the project of electro-mechanical MAX II type exchange, which was proposed to be commissioned by March, 1987 is lagging behind the schedule, if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what is the revised schedule and by when the said exchange is likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Fazilka exchange is planned to be converted into 800-lines capacity automatic exchange in 1987-88.

(b) Yes, Sir. Fazilka exchange was proposed to be commissioned in March, 87 but equipments were not available in time.

(c) The Exchange is now planned to be commissioned during 1987-88.

Promotion cases of Lab. Assistants of Marwari Senior Secondary School, Delhi

1699. SHRIMATI MANORAMA PANDEY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some Members of Parliament have represented to Government regarding the promotion cases of Lab. Assistants of Marwari Senior Secondary School, Nai Sarak, Delhi;

(b) whether it is also a fact that after receiving the representations from the Members of Parliament, the Delhi Administration has transferred those Lab. Assistants to another school to avoid the promotions;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to withdraw such orders of transfer and give promotions to the concerned Lab. Assistants;

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor and if the answer to part

(c) above be in affirmative, by when the Lab. Assistants who are transferred are likely to be reposted in their parent schools; and

(e) what action Government propose to take against the Management of the school who have reportedly violated the rules under Delhi Administration Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Yes, Sir. One of the M.Ps had forwarded the representation of a Group D employee of Marwari Senior Secondary School, Nai Sarak, Delhi for promotion to the post of Laboratory Assistant.

(b) to (e) The concerned employee was on the list of surplus staff. As a policy of the Education Department of Delhi Administration, the surplus staff is adjusted in some other school on receipt of the consent of the concerned management. The Delhi Administration has directed the Management of Marwari Senior Secondary School to promote the said employee, if otherwise eligible. One receipt of promotion orders, he will be posted back in the said school as Laboratory Assistant as he has a lien in that school. In case of non-compliance of the directions of the Delhi Administration in this regard, action against the management of the school will be considered.

Telephones in the country

1700. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of telephones installed in the country till March 1987;

(b) what is the total number of persons in the waiting list of telephones till March, 1987;

(c) what is the number of telephones installed in Uttar Pradesh till March, 1987; and

(d) what is the number of persons in Uttar Pradesh in the waiting list of telephones till March, 1987?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The total number of telephones installed in the country as on 31st March, 1987 is 34.89 lakhs.

(b) The total number of persons in the waiting list in the country as on 31st March, 1987 is about 11.25 lakhs.

(c) The total number of telephones installed in Uttar Pradesh as on 31st March, 1987 is about 2.21 lakhs.

(d) The number of persons in Uttar Pradesh in the waiting list of telephones as on 31st March, 1987 is 45,815.

Complaint against M/s. Railway Cycle Stand Karamchari Shram Samvida Sahkari Samiti Ltd., Allahabad

1701. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a complaint dated 27th January, 1987 from a Member of Parliament. Against M/s. Railway Cycle Stand Karamchari Shram Samvida Sahkari Samiti Ltd., Allahabad, for making short payment;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to recover the amount of short payment made by the Society to parcel porters at Allahabad in disregard to the provisions contained under the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970; and

(c) by when the full payment to the parcel porters is likely to be made by the Society?